

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Applicants' related co-pending applications and issued patents (see Appendix A) directed to nanoparticles and methods of preparation and use thereof.

The Applicants note that the Examiner had attached copies of the PTO 1449 forms for the initial Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS"), Supp. IDS, 2nd Supp. IDS, 3rd Supp. IDS, 4th Supp. IDS, and 5th Supp. IDS hand-delivered to the Examiner on February 2, 2002. On inspection of the executed PTO 1449 for the initial IDS, the Applicants note that the Examiner did not initialize reference no. 16. In addition, the Applicants further noted that the Examiner did not return an executed PTO 1449 form for the 6th Supp. IDS that was hand-delivered to the Examiner on September 9, 2003. Subsequent to the issuance of this Office action, the Applicants had filed a 7th Supp. IDS. The Applicants request that the Examiner execute Ref. 16 of the PTO 1449 form for the initial IDS and fully execute the PTO 1449 forms for the 6th and 7th Supp. IDS and return a copy of the PTO 1449 forms to the undersigned representative. Copies of the initial IDS, 6th and 7th Supplemental IDS, and associated PTO 1449 forms are attached. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned representative if the Examiner would like to have another copy of the references.

The specification was amended to update the priority claim. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment.

Claims 431 and 432 were pending in this application. Claims 431 and 432 were cancelled and new claims 433-461 were added to further clarify the invention. The new claims are fully supported in the previously pending claims, and thus do not constitute new matter. The new claims are supported, for example, by claims 237-265, 431 and 432 and on page 20, lines 23 to page 21, line 2; and page 69, line 26 to page 70, line 8. Thus, the new claims do not constitute new matter.

Turning to the office action, claims 431 and 432 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 102(e) as being anticipated by Yguerabide (U.S. Patent No. 6,214,560)("Yguerabide"). The Applicants traverse, but have nonetheless canceled claims 431 and 432, thus obviating the rejection.

As a general rule, for prior art to anticipate under section 102, every element of the claimed invention must be identically disclosed in a single reference. Corning Glass Works v. Sumitomo Electric, 9 U.S.P.Q.2d 1962, 1965 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The exclusion of a claimed element, no matter how insubstantial or obvious, from a reference is enough to negate anticipation. Connell v. Sears, Roebuck & Co., 220 U.S.P.Q 193, 1098 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Applicants respectfully submit that Yguerabide cannot be applied to support an anticipation rejection of the new claims under 35 U.S.C. section 102(e).

Specifically, the Examiner alleged that Yguerabide taught detection and measurement of one or more analytes in a sample using particles of specific composition and size using light scattering. The discussion is found starting in col. 82, line 35, of Yguerabide. Col. 83 provides further discussion regarding particle size and particle binding to a surface. There is no discussion of any method for separating out one or more types of selected nucleic acids from a sample via aggregation and precipitation of nanoparticle-based complexes. New claims 433-461 recites limitations that are neither taught, made obvious, or suggested by the cited reference. Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that Yguerabide cannot be applied to support a rejection of the new claims.

Claims 431 and 432 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 112, second paragraph, for alleged indefiniteness. The Applicants traverse, but have nonetheless canceled claims 431 and 432, thus obviating the rejection.

Finally, claims 431 and 432 also stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 189 of co-pending application No. 09/976,971 (the '971 application). Since this application and the '971 application have not been allowed, the Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be held in abeyance until either this application or the '971 application is allowed.

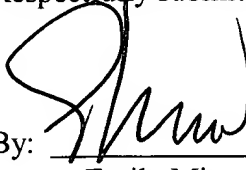
In conclusion, the Applicants respectfully submit that the claims in this application are in allowable condition and request a Notice to this effect.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested and a favorable determination is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned

representative if the Examiner believes that this would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 13, 2003

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June 13, 2003

Page 1 of 6

APPENDIX A

ATTY Case No.	Serial No./ Filing Date	Inventors/Title	Status
00-653-A	U.S. 09/927,777 Filed 8/10/01	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian, Taton, Garamella, Li, Park/ NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFORE	PENDING
00-713-B1	09/923,625 Filed 8/7/01	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian/ NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFOR	PENDING
00-713-C	09/344,667, filed 6/25/99	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian/ NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFORE	U.S. Patent No. 6,361,944, issued 3/26/02
00-713-I	U.S.S.N 09/603,830 Filed 6/26/00	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian, Taton; NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFOR	U.S. Patent No. 6,506,564, issued 1/14/03
00-713-I-1	09/961,949 9/20/01	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian, Taton;	ALLOWED

ATTY Case No.	Serial No./ Filing Date	Inventors/Title	Status
		NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFOR	
00-713-I-2	09/957,318 9/20/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-3	09/957,313 9/20/01	See 00-713-I-1	ALLOWED
00-713-I-4	09/966,491 9/28/01	See 00-713-I-1	ALLOWED
00-713-I-5	09/966,312 9/28/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-6	09/967,409 9/28/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-7	09/974,500 10/10/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-8	09/974,007 10/10/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-9	09/973,638 10/10/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-10	09/973,788 10/10/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-11	09/975,062 10/11/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-12	09/975,376 10/11/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-13	09/975,384 10/11/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-14	09/975,498 10/11/01	See 00-713-I-1	ALLOWED

ATTY Case No.	Serial No./ Filing Date	Inventors/Title	Status
00-713-I-15	09/975,059 11/11/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-16	09/976,601 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-17	09/976,968 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-18	09/976,971 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-19	09/976,863 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-20	09/976,577 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-21	09/976,618 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-22	09/981,344 10/15/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-23	09/976,900 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-24	09/976,617 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-I-25	09/976,378 10/12/01	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-i-26	TBA 041003	See 00-713-I-1	PENDING
00-713-L	U.S.S.N. 09/693,005 Filed 10/20/00	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian/ NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND	U.S. Patent No. 6,495,324, issued 12/17/02

ATTY Case No.	Serial No./ Filing Date	Inventors/Title	Status
		USES THEREFORE	
00-713-M	U.S.S.N. 09/693,352 Filed 10/20/00	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian/ NANOPARTICLES HAVING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES ATTACHED THERE TO AND USES THEREFORE	U.S. Patent No. 6,417,340, issued 7/9/02
00-714-G	U.S. 09/830,620 Filed 8/15/01	Mirkin, Nguyen/ NANOPARTICLES WITH POLYMER SHELLS	PENDING
00-715-A	U.S. 09/760,500 Filed 1/12/01	Mirkin, Letsinger, Mucic, Storhoff, Elghanian, Taton; Garamella, Li/ METHOD OF ATTACHING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES TO NANOPARTICLES AND PRODUCTS PRODUCED THEREBY	PENDING
00-1085-A	U.S.S.N. 09/820,279 Filed 3/28/01	Mirkin, Letsinger, etc./ METHOD AND MATERIALS FOR ASSAYING BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS	ALLOWED
00-1086-A	U.S. 09/903,461 Filed 7/11/01	Letsinger, Garimella/ METHOD OF DETECTION BY ENHANCEMENT OF SILVER STAINING	ALLOWED
01-565-A	USSN 10/125,194 Filed 4/18/02	Mirkin, Nguyen, Watson, Park/ OLIGONUCLEOTI DE-MODIFIED ROMP POLYMERS AND CO-	PENDING

ATTY Case No.	Serial No./ Filing Date	Inventors/Title	Status
		POLYMERS	
01-599-A	U.S.S.N. 10/291,291 Filed 11/08/02	Storhoff/NOVEL THIOL-BASED METHOD FOR ATTACHING OLIGONUCLEOTI DES TO NANOPARTICLES	PENDING
01-661-A	U.S.S.N. 10/034,451 Filed 12/28/01	Mirkin, Cao, Jin/ DNA-MODIFIED CORE-SHELL AG/AU NANOCRYSTALS	PENDING
01-661-C	U.S.S.N. 10/153,483 Filed 5/22/02	Mirkin, Cao, Jin/ DNA-MODIFIED CORE-SHELL AG/AU NANOCRYSTALS	PENDING
01-1565-A	U.S.S.N. 10/266,983 Filed 10/08/02	Park, Taton, Mirkin/ARRAY- BASED ELECTRICAL DETECTION OF DNA USING NANOPARTICLE PROBES	PENDING
01-1705-A	U.S.S.N. 10/108,211 Filed 3/27/02	Nam, Park, Mirkin/BIO- BARCODES BASED ON OLIGONUCLEOTI DE-MODIFIED NANOPARTICLES	PENDING
02-338-B	USSN 10/172,428 Filed 6/14/02	Cao, Jin, Nam, Mirkin/MULTICHAN NEL DETECTION USING NANOPARTICLE PROBES WITH RAMAN SPECTROSCOPIC FINGERPRINTS	PENDING
02-338-C	TO BE ASSIGNED	Cao, Jin, Nam, Mirkin/MULTICHAN	PENDING

June 13, 2003

Page 6 of 6

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	5/7/03	NNEL DETECTION USING NANOPARTICLE PROBES WITH RAMAN SPECTROSCOPIC FINGERPRINTS	